

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3520
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC, IT
SUBJ: ITALIAN VIEWS ON EC 1977/1978 FARM PRICE PACKAGE

REF: EC BRUSSELS 2571

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, ITALIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER MARCORA HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN PRESSING GOI VIEWS ON EC PRICE PACKAGE, MOST RECENTLY IN DISCUSSION WITH EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH IN BRUSSELS MARCH 21. PRESS HAS REPORTED MARCORA EFFORTS AS CONCENTRATING ON ACCEPTANCE OF GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES HIGHER THAN THAT PROPOSED BY COMMISSION, DEVALUATION
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OF GREEN LIRA AND ELIMINATION OF MEASURES HINDERING ITALIAN DAIRY PRODUCTION.

2. IN DISCUSSION MARCH 23 WITH ECMIN AND AGATT, ROMUALDO MORONI, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL POLICY AT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF PRESS REPORTS. GOI POLICY, HE SAID, IS TO ARRIVE AT INCREASE IN

PRICES TO ITALIAN PRODUCERS. METHOD OF PROVIDING FOR THAT, I.E. WHAT COMBINATION OF INCREASE IN PRICES ESTABLISHED IN UNITS OF ACCOUNT AND OF GREEN LIRA DEVALUATION, IS OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE. MORONI DENIED PRESS REPORTS THAT MARCORA IS SEEKING 9 PERCENT DEVALUATION OF GREEN LIRA. HE SAID THAT VARIOUS MINISTRIES HAVE MADE RECOMMENDATIONS (MAF IS CLEARLY PRESSING FOR SIGNIFICANT LEVEL OF DEVALUATION), BUT NO GOI POSITION ESTABLISHED, ALTHOUGH ONE IS EXPECTED BEFORE MARCH 25 AGRICULTURE MINISTERS MEETING.

3. MORONI REITERATED ITALIAN VIEW THAT ITALY WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE, EXCEPT IN VERY GENERAL SENSE (I.E. MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY), FOR EC DAIRY SURPLUS. IT WAS BEING CALLED UPON TO BEAR BURDEN OF OVER-PRODUCTION IN OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES AND DID NOT FEEL THAT WAS FAIR. MORONI DENIED THAT PROPOSED TAX ON FATS AND OILS WAS DEAD ISSUE, BUT HE NOTED THERE WAS STRONG OPPOSITION AMONG SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS FROM U.S., AND THEREFORE NO EARLY ACTION WAS LIKELY.

4. MORONI WAS UNWILLING TO PREDICT OUTCOME OF PRICE PACKAGE DISCUSSION. HE NOTED THAT MANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES REMAINED AND STRONG PRESSURES WERE BEING BROUGHT TO BEAR ON SOME OF THESE. ACCORDINGLY, HE BELIEVED IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT AGREEMENT ON PACKAGE MIGHT BE DELAYED. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURE, POLICIES, PRICE INDEXES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Litigation History:
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